CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name:

NELO Multiple Gravel Test pits Wheatland and Golden Valley County

Proposed

Implementation Date:

June 2019

Proponent:

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, NELO & MMB

Location:

8N 13E 14, 8N 15E 24, 10N 19E 36, 11N 20E 36

County:

Wheatland and Golden Valley

Trust:

Common Schools

I. TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION

Test permit to test for road building aggregates with a backhoe on state trust lands.

II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED:

Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

Northeastern Land Office (NELO)

Proponent: Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, NELO & MMB

Surface Lessees: Sheep Valley Reinhart Trust, McFarland-White Ranch, Eugene W Tierney Jr, Killam Ranch Properties LP, Wilks Ranch Montana LTD LP

2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:

The DNRC, and NELO have jurisdiction over this proposed project.

The proponent is responsible for acquiring all required permits for the proposed project. The proponent is responsible for settling all surface damages with the surface lessees.

DNRC is not aware of any other agencies with jurisdiction or other permits needed to complete this project

3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative A (No Action) – Under this alternative, the Department does not grant a test permit to search for road building aggregates.

Alternative B (the Proposed Action) – Under this alternative, the Department does grant a test permit to search for road building aggregates.

III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.
- Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.
- Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.

4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:

Consider the presence of fragile, compactable or unstable soils. Identify unusual geologic features. Specify any special reclamation considerations. Identify any cumulative impacts to soils.

All the areas that will be tested have similar soil structures and landforms of stable gentle slopes with no large gullies or active erosion. All sites are well vegetated with little bare ground and no signs of current erosion.

Almost all the soils that will be affected are rated as slight for off-road erosion on USDA Web Soil Survey. The few soils that are rated as moderate should not cause any large amounts of erosion because the disturbances will be small and disconnected.

No cumulative effects to geology and soil quality, stability and moisture are anticipated.

5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION:

Identify important surface or groundwater resources. Consider the potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality. Identify cumulative effects to water resources.

None of the test areas are going to be near a surface water source. There is a canal on one tract but the work will occur far from it. There will be no change in water distribution or quality from this project. There may be some runoff that causes temporarily higher sediment loads in ephemeral streams but the disturbances are small and scattered so they should not contribute much sediment to runoff.

No cumulative effects to the water resources are anticipated.

6. AIR QUALITY:

What pollutants or particulate would be produced? Identify air quality regulations or zones (e.g. Class I air shed) the project would influence. Identify cumulative effects to air quality.

Air quality will be locally and temporarily affected by the dust and exhaust of a mini excavator. These affects will not persist beyond the day of testing and will be locally concentrated. The only population affected will be the operators of the equipment.

No cumulative effects to air quality are anticipated.

7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:

What changes would the action cause to vegetative communities? Consider rare plants or cover types that would be affected. Identify cumulative effects to vegetation.

Only small areas of vegetation will be disturbed by this testing. The areas are small enough that they will be naturally reseeded by the surrounding vegetation within a couple years. This testing will only disturb small 2ft x 8ft areas that will all be disconnected, since the disturbance will not affect large areas there will be little cumulative affects.

If re-seeding is necessary the proponent will acquire certified, weed free seed and refer to the Plant Materials Tech Note No. MT-46 (Rev. 4) dated September 2013 for seeding rates.

No long term cumulative effects to vegetation are anticipated.

8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS:

Consider substantial habitat values and use of the area by wildlife, birds or fish. Identify cumulative effects to fish and wildlife.

The areas that being tested are mostly open grasslands. There are not any rare habitats that will be disturbed and any active nests or burrows will be avoided.

No wetlands or aquatic habitats will be affected in the scope of this project.

No cumulative effects are anticipated.

9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:

Consider any federally listed threatened or endangered species or habitat identified in the project area. Determine effects to wetlands. Consider Sensitive Species or Species of special concern. Identify cumulative effects to these species and their habitat.

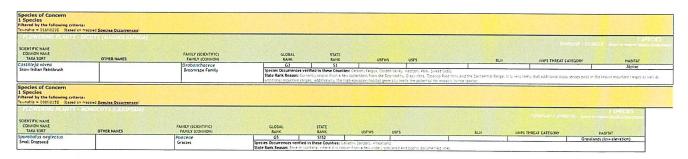
Species of Concern 6 Species Filtered by the following criteria Township = 010h019E (based on a										
SCIENTIFIC NAME										
COMMON NAME TAXA SORT Anthus spragueii	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON) Motacillidae	GLOBAL RANK G3G4	STATE RANK S18	USFWS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	N OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT		HABITAT
Sprague's Pipit	Ploits	Species Occurrences yes	ified in these Count	MBTA; BCC11; BCC les: Siame, Carter, Cascade, J. Sherodan, Stillomater, Swee	Charleso Cicter Daniels Dawson 8	SENSITIVE Fallon, Fergus, Callatin, Garrield.	Glacier, Golden Valley, Hill, Jud	18% oth Basin, Lewis and Clark, Liber	Ty, Madison, Mccone, Meagher, Mc	Grasslands eseishell, Park, Petroleum, Philips
		State Rank Reason: Altho prior to fledging of young G3G4	ough population trend	fi in Montana appear to be r	t Grass. Teton. Toole, Valley, Wheatla elatively stable in recent years, popul		the long run and the species fac	es threats from covertype conve	rision, overgrazing, exotic plant is	vasions, aftered fire regimes, and mo
Centrocercus urophasianus Greater Sage-Grouse	Phasianidae Upland Game Birds	6364	52		(80) Sensitive - Known on Forests (80) Sensitive - Suspected on	SENSITIVE	SGCN2	12%	75%	Sagebrush
		Species Occurrences ver	ified in these Counti	les: Seaverhead, Sig Horn, S	Forests (CG, H.C) Raine, Ercedinater, Carbon, Carter, Ch	outeeu, Custer, Davison, Deer Lo	dee Fallon Fermin Gallatin Gr	ortigist Colores Varies Hill Made	on, Mccone, Meagher, Musselshell	Dark Datuminum Dhillion Douglas &
Charadrius montanus	Charadriidae	Praine, Rosebud, Silver 6	SIR STRINGER	Grass, Treasure, Valley, Why	ratiand, Wibaux, Yellowstone	SENSITIVE	SGCN2	20%	735	, Park, Petroleum, Phillips, Powder R. Grasslands
Mountain Plover Vucifraga columbiana Clark's Nutcracker	Plovers Corvidae	Species Occurrences ver G5	ified in these Countri S3	MBTA: BCCTT; BCC MBTA MBTA	Species of Conservation	Refferson, Madison, Musselshell, R	Petroleum, Philips, Rosebud, Ter SGCN3	on, Toole, Treasure, Valley, Whe	atland 84%	Conifer forest
Ctark's Nutcracker	Jays / Crows / Magples	Species Occurrences ver Mineral, Missoula, Mussel G5	ified in these Counti		Concern on Forests (FLAT) Iroadviater, Carbon, Carter, Cascade, I River, Powell, Rayallt, Sanders, Silver	Chouteau, Custer, Deer Lodge, Fe Bow, Strilwater, Sweet Grass, Ter		, Golden Valley, Granite, Jeffers	on, Judith Easin, Lake, Levis and	Curk, Liberty, Lincoln, Madison, Med
lumenius omericanus Long-billed Curlew	Scolopacidae Sandpipers		1	BCC17	11;	SENSITIVE	SGCN3	195	100%	Grasslands
		and Clark, Liberty, Madiso		Missoula, Misselshell, Park,	Paine, Erpadwater, Carbon, Carter, Ca Petroleum, Phillips, Pondera, Powder	River, Powell, Frairle, Ravalli, Ri	, Davison, Deer Lodge, Fallon, Fi chland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sar	ergus, Flathead, Gallatin, Garfie ders, Sheridan, Stillwater, Swee	id, Glacier, Golden Valley, Granite t Grass, Teton, Toole, Treasure, Va	mul, Jefferson, Judith Basin, Lake, Rey, Wheatland, Wibaux, Yellowston
Spizeila breweri Brewer's Sparrow	Passerellidae New World Sparrows	G5 Species Occurrences ver	S36 ified in these Countr	MBTA; BCC10; BCC les: Sea-erhead, Sig Morn, 8	Haine, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Ch , Pondera, Powder River, Powell, Prab	SENSITIVE outens, Custer, Davison, Deer Lo	SGCN3 dge, Fallon, Fergus, Flathead, G	124 Matin, Garfield, Glacier, Golder		
		State Rank Reason: Spec	ies faces threats from	s loss of sagebrush habitats i	It is dependent on as a result of habits	ne, Ravalli, Richland, Rocsevelt, at conversion for agriculture and	Rosebud, Sanders, Silver Boxi, St Incressed frequency of fire as a	silvater, Sweet Grass, Teton, To result of weed encroachment an	ole, Treasure, Valley, Wheatland, d drought.	/hbaux, Yellowstone
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CIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	a section of	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING	N OF MT THAT IS BREEDING	
asiurus cinereus Hoary Bat	Vespertilionidae Bats	6364	53		USFS Lame, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Ca	BLM	SGCN3	RANGE IN MT	RANGE 100%	HABITAT Riparian and forest
	09.3	and Clark, Liberty, Lincols Wheatland, Wibaux, Yello	i, Madson, Micone, A vistore	Vengher, Mineral, Micsoula.	Musselshell, Park, Petroleum, Philipp,	Pondera, Povider River, Powell, F	Davison, Deer Lodge, Fallon, Fr trainte, Ravalli, Richland, Rooses	rgus, Flathead, Gallatin, Garfiel elt, Rosebud, Sanders, Shendan,	 Glacier, Golden Valley, Granite Silver Bow, Stillwater, Sweet Gra 	, His, Jefferson, Judith Basin, Lake is, Teton, Toole, Treasure, Valley.
orex nanus Owarf Shrew	Soricidae Shrews	G4 Species Occurrences ver	5253 ified in these Counti	es: Beaverhead, Carbon, Ca	rter, Chouteau, Davison, Deer Lodge,	Fergus, Golden Willey, Hill, Judits	SGCN2-3 n Earlin, Fondera, Toole	14%	67%	Rocky habitat
orex preblel	Soricidae	State Rank Reason: Obse G4	rvations of this specie \$3	es are infrequent resulting is		es may only breed once in its brie	SGENT	n many small mammal species, 28%	791	Sagebrush grassland
Peble's Shrew	Shrevs	Species Occurrences ver Wheatland State Rank Reason: Obse	ified in these Counti	es: Seaverhead, Sig Horn, C es are infrequent resulting is	houteau, Dawson, Deer Lodge, Fergus i limited data to assess threats. Specie	, Gallatin, Golden Valley, Grante es may only breed once in its brie	, Judith Basks, Lewis and Clark. If life, so is more vulnerable tha	Lincoln, Madison, Missouta, Phili n many small manimal species.	ips, Powell, Ravaill, Shendan, Sky	er Sovi. Sweet Grass, Teton, Yalley.
CIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME										
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erthia americana Grown Creeper	Certhildae Creepers	G5 Species Occurrences ver	§3 Ified in these Counti	MBTA es: Seavertread, Broadwater	Carbon, Carter, Cascade, Choineau, net Grass, Teton, Wheatland	Deer Lodge, Fergus, Flathead, G.	SGCN3 Histin, Clacker, Golden Yalley, C	ranite, Jefferson, Judith Basin, I	33% Jake: Lewis and Clark, Lincoln, Ka	Moist conifer forests dison, Meagher, Mineral, Missoula, 1
haradrius montanus Vountain Plover	Charadriidae Plovers	G3 Species Occurrences ver	528	I MBTA; BCC11; BCC	17 Non-Fermis Cartield, Golden Valley	SENSITIVE	SGCHZ	20%	73%	Grasslands
iaemorhous cassinii Cassin's Finch	Fringillidae Finches	G5	53	MBTA: BCC10		Cinter Deel Lodge, Fernin S.	SGCN3	11% Walley, Granite, Jefferson, Audi	62%	Drier conifer forest
		Missoula, Musselsheil, Pari State Rank Reason: Cata	k, Petroleum, Phillips shaw recent short-ter	, Powder River, Fowell, Rava rm declines in population fo	roadwater, Carbon, Cascade, Choutea kin, Rosebud, Sanders, Silver Bow, Still r this species Species of Conservation	water, Sweet Grass, Teton, When				
lucifraga columbiana Clarks Nutcracker	Corvidae Jays / Crovis / Magples						SGCN3	95	84%	Conifer forest
pizella breweri	Passerellidae	G5	312	MRTA- RCC 10- RCC	roadwater, Carton, Carter, Csocade, C Piver, Peivell, Pavalii, Sanders, Sliver 17	CENCITIVE	T SCCHA	Golden Valley, Granite, Jefferso 125	on, Judith Basin, Lake, Lewis and I	Clark, Liberty, Lincoln, Madison, Me.
Brewer's Sparrow	New World Sparrows	Species Occurrences ver	ifled in these Countil r. Missoula, Musselshe	es: Seaverhead, Sig Horn, S	aine, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Chr. Fondera, Powder Piver, Powell, Frain	outeau, Custer, Dawson, Deer Los	ige, Fallon, Fergus, Flathead, Gr	121	1001	Sagebrush
		State Bank Bassen Sans		less of expedience beautiful.		ie, Ravetti, Richland, Roosevett, I	iosebud, Sanders, Silver Bow, St	natin, Garrield, Glacier, Golden Uwater, Sweet Grass, Teton, Too	Valley, Granite, Hill, Jefferson, L. le. Treasure, Valley, Wheatland, V	ribaux, Yellowstone
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iquita chrysaetos	Accipitridae	G5	53	BGEPA; MBTA; BCC11	7]	SENSITIVE	SOUNT	Pt.	1006	Constant				
Golden Eagle	Hawks / Kites / Engles	Species Occurrences ve Clark, Liberty, Lincoln, I reslowstone	rified in these Countie ladison, Miccone, Meagh	52 Beaverhead, Big Horn, Bia er, Missoula, Musselshell, Par	ine, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Casi rk, Petroleum, Phillips, Pondera, Pow	cade, Chouteau, Custer, Dawso der River, Powell, Praiste, Pava	n. Deer Lodge, Fallon, Fergus, Fi III, Richland, Rocsevelt, Rosebud	ethead, Gallatin, Garffeld, Glack Sanders, Sheridan, Silver Bow.	or Colden Valley Cranite, will telfe	unce build facin lake landrand				
rdea herodias	Ardeidae	G5	53	MBTA	Company of the second	Column Bearing Street	SGCN3	35	100%	Riparian forest				
Great Blue Heron	Bitterns / Egrets / Herons / Night- Herons	Yellowstone	Addison, Mccone, Meagh	er, Mineral, Missoula, Mussel	ine, Broadwater, Carton, Carter, Casi shell, Park, Petroleum, Phillips, Pond ines, and doctining regeneration of ri	era, Powder River, Powell, Prai	rie, Ravalli, Richland, Roosevelt,	vigus, Flathead, Gallatin, Garfield, Glacier, Golden Valley, Granite, Hill, Jefferson, Judith Batin, Lake, Lews and oferest, Rosebud, Sanders, Sheridan, Sliver Bow, Stillwrater, Sweet Grass, Teton, Treasure, Valley, Wheatland, Wi						
uteo regalis	Accipitridae	G4	538	MBTA: BCC10: BCC17	7	SENSITIVE	SGCN3	115	95%	Sagebrush grassland				
erruginous Hawk	Havks / Kites / Eagles	Species Occurrences ve	rified in these Countie	s: Deaverhead, Blaine, Broad	ovater, Carter, Cascade, Chouteau. Ci	uster, Daniels, Davison, Fallon.	Fergus, Gallatin, Carffield, Glack	r, Golden Valley, Hill, Jefferson,	Judith Easin, Lewis and Clark, Liber	ty, Madison, Mccone, Meagher.				
alcarius ornatus	Calcariidae	G5	SZR	MBTA: BCC11: BCC17	vert, Rosebud, Sheridan, Stillwater, Te	SENSITIVE		224	1 (2)					
Chestnut-collared Longspur	Longspurs and Snow Buntings	Species Occurrences ve	rified in these Countie	s: Big Horn, Staine, Carbon,	Carter, Cascade, Chouteau, Custer, D.	antett, Dawson, Fallon, Fergus,	Garffield, Glacter, Colden Valley,	HILL Judith Early, Lever and Cu	073	Grasslands				
					e, Valley. Wheatland, Wibaux, Yellow faces threats from loss of native prair					Purious Purious Party, File				
haradrius montanus	Charadilidae	G3	528	I MBTA: BCC11: BCC1	laces unread from toss of native prais	SENSITIVE	SGCH2	ial distribution of grazing and fin	e regimes it is dependent on.	Gresslands				
Mountain Plover	Plovers	Species Occurrences ve	rified in these Countie	s: Blaine, Broadwater, Carbo	n, Fergus, Gartield, Golden Valley, Je	fterson, Madison, Musselshell.	Petroleum, Philips, Rosebud, Tet	on, Toole, Treature, Valley, Whe	atland	Orașsianos				
Ucifraga columbiana Clarks Nutcracker	Jays / Crows / Magples	G5	S3	MBTA	Species of Conservation Concern on Forests (FLAT) nadivater, Carbon, Carter, Cascade, Cr		SGCN3	5%	84%	Conifer forest				
		immeral, missoura, musse	oneil. Park, Petroleum,	Phillips, Pondera, Powder Ri	iver, Powell, Ravallt, Sanders, Silver B	ow. Stillwater, Sweet Grass. Te	ergus, Fuithead, Gallatin, Glacier ton, Toole, Wheatland, Yellowsto	, Golden Valley, Granite, Jeffers	on, Judith Basin, Lake, Levis and Cli	erk, Liberty, Lincoln, Madison, Mea				
umenius americanus one-billed Curiew	Scolopacidae Sandpipers	G5	536	MSTA: BCC10; BCC11 BCC17	:	SENSITIVE	SGCN3	19%	100%	Grasslands				
		and Clark, Liberty, Madis	rined in these Counties	s: beaverhead, big Horn, bia Hispopla, Mustelshell, Park, P.	nne, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Cass etroleum, Phillips, Pondera, Powder P	tade, Chouteau, Custer, Danfel Prier Privert, Brance, Cavado D	i, Davison, Deer Lodge, Fallon, Fr	rgus, Flathead, Gallatin, Garnel	d, Glacier, Golden Valley, Granite, H	ill. Jefferson, Judith Basin, Lake, L				
thynchophanes mccownii NcCown's Longspur	Calcarildae Longspurs and Snow Buntings	G4	538	MBTA; BCC10; BCC11 BCC17		SENSITIVE	SGCN3	415	79%	Grasslands				
					pirater, Chouteau, Daniels, Fergus, Gi tered grazing and fire regimes, and al									
ICIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE	USENS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	N OF GLOBAL BREEDING	N OF MT THAT IS BREEDING					
hrosomus eos	Cyprinidae	G5	51	V3(11)	1	DUA	SGCN)	RANGE IN AIT	RANGE 27%	Small prairie rivers				
forthern Redbelly Dace	Minnows	valley, wheatland, wiba-	24		s, Dameis, Dawson, Fergus, Golden Va Species of concern in Montana becau		nd Clark, Mocone, Meagher, Muss	elsheil, Petroleum, Phillips, Pon	era, Richland, Roosevett, Shendan,	Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Teton, Too				
pecial Status Species Species Species State of the following criteria: Sweathly = COSNOTE (based on m BIRDS (AVES)	rapped <u>Species Occurrences</u>)					and parameters of the second		4		1 SPECIES				
CIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC)	GLOSAL	STATE					N OF CLOSAL SECTIONS	N OF MT THAT IS BREEDING	(bound on mappins Species, Occurre				
TAXA SORT	FAMILY (COMMON)	RANK	RANK	USFWS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	RANGE IN MT	RANGE	HABITAT				
ialiaeetus teucocephalus Bald Eagle	Accipitridge	G5	S4	DM; BGEPA: MBTA;	Sensitive - Known on Forests 7 (SD, BRT, CG, HLC, KOOT,	SENSITIVE	T	25	100%	Riparian forest				

Above are the Montana Natural Heritage Project's animal species of concern reports for each township where work will be done. There are a lot of species that may be affected but since the work will only be for several hours in each of these places and there will be no large disturbances there should be no significant adverse effects on these animals.

One exception is that the dwarf or Preble's shrew may be disturbed because they live below ground. This is hard to mitigate. Both these shrew species were observed 20+ years ago and both of them only had one sighting. Because they are so rare it is unlikely to have an encounter with one of these two shrews however all recently active small burrows will be avoided as a mitigation measure.

Temporary displacement may occur. No population effect is anticipated.



There are several plant species of concern in the areas where digging will occur. Both of the these plants had one observation in the general area and both observations were 30+ years ago. It is unlikely that these plants will be seen, however several people doing the work have extensive botanical training and will be informed to watch out for these plants. Having trained personnel present during the excavation will mitigate the probability of disturbing one of these species of concern.

Temporary displacement may occur No population effect is anticipated. No cumulative effects to habitat are anticipated.

10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:

Identify and determine effects to historical, archaeological or paleontological resources.

A Class I (literature review) level review was conducted by the DNRC staff archaeologist for the area of potential effect (APE). This entailed inspection of project maps, DNRC's sites/site leads database, land use records, General Land Office Survey Plats, and control cards. The Class I search revealed that *Antiquities* have not been identified in the APE. No additional archaeological investigative work will be conducted in response to this proposed development. However, if previously unknown cultural or paleontological materials are identified during project related activities, all work will cease until a professional assessment of such resources can be made.

In 8N 13E 14 there is a historic canal. This site will not be affected because all of the work will be done several hundred yards to the north and 10-20 ft higher in elevation than the canal.

There are some documented cairns located 11N 20E 36. These were previously documented by the DNRC archaeologist. They are all located ½ mile north of where the work will be done.

The DNRC archeologist will be on site when the work is done on all these sections, he will give guidance if any cultural resources are found in the test area. Due to the nature of the work any cultural resources could be easily avoided because testing is just to determine the presence and extent of gravel resources over a large area so pits do not have to be in set locations.

No effects on historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources anticipated.

11. AESTHETICS:

Determine if the project is located on a prominent topographic feature, or may be visible from populated or scenic areas. What level of noise, light or visual change would be produced? Identify cumulative effects to aesthetics.

Some small areas will be disturbed with a backhoe but they will be one bucket wide. Because of the small disturbed area the disturbances will recover quickly. Disturbances will not be evident from any major roads.

No long term direct or cumulative effects to aesthetics are anticipated.

12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:

Determine the amount of limited resources the project would require. Identify other activities nearby that the project would affect. Identify cumulative effects to environmental resources.

No demands on limited resources are required for this project.

No direct or cumulative effects to environmental resources are anticipated.

13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA:

List other studies, plans or projects on this tract. Determine cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of current private, state or federal actions in the analysis area, and from future proposed state actions in the analysis area that are under MEPA review (scoped) or permitting review by any state agency.

There are no other projects or plans being considered on the tracts listed in this EA Checklist.

IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

- RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.
- Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.
- Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.

14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Identify any health and safety risks posed by the project.

Some hazards to safety in the operation of equipment but proper distances from operation will be maintained by all unauthorized personnel.

15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:

Identify how the project would add to or alter these activities.

This project will not add to or deter from other industrial, agricultural, or commercial activities in this area.

16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:

Estimate the number of jobs the project would create, move or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to the employment market.

The project will not create any new jobs. These positions are already held by employees of the proponent. No cumulative effects to the employment market are anticipated.

17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES:

Estimate tax revenue the project would create or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to taxes and revenue.

There are no direct or cumulative effects to taxes or revenue for the proposed project.

18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

Estimate increases in traffic and changes to traffic patterns. What changes would be needed to fire protection, police, schools, etc.? Identify cumulative effects of this and other projects on government services

There will not be any increases in traffic or traffic patterns if this project is approved.

There will be no direct or cumulative effects on government services.

19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS:

List State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, and other zoning or management plans, and identify how they would affect this project.

There are no zoning or other agency management plans affecting this project.

20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:

Identify any wilderness or recreational areas nearby or access routes through this tract. Determine the effects of the project on recreational potential within the tract. Identify cumulative effects to recreational and wilderness activities.

There will be no direct or cumulative effects on recreation or wilderness activities.

21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Estimate population changes and additional housing the project would require. Identify cumulative effects to population and housing
The proposed project does not include any changes to housing or developments. Population and housing will not be affected.
No direct or cumulative effects to population or housing are anticipated.
22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Identify potential disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities.
There are no native, unique or traditional lifestyles or communities in the vicinity that would be impacted by the proposal.
23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: How would the action affect any unique quality of the area?
The proposed project will have no effect on any unique quality of the area.
24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES: Estimate the return to the trust. Include appropriate economic analysis. Identify potential future uses for the analysis area other than existing management. Identify cumulative economic and social effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.
This project will have no immediate return to the trust. Gravel from resources identified by these test pits will provide information for DNRC to sell gravel resources in the future. This information could result in large long term returns to the trust.
V. FINDING
25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED:
Alternative B (the Proposed Action) – Under this alternative, the Department does grant a test permit to search for road building aggregates.

26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

I have evaluated the potential environment effects and have determined that no negative long-term environmental impacts will result from the proposed activity.

27. NEED FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:							
		EIS		More Detailed EA	XXX	No Further Analysis	

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Signature:	Dw	2 Date: 6/18/19

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